What is claimed is:

1. An automatic sampler comprising:

a plurality of sample vessels; and

a needle for collecting liquid samples sequentially from
5   the sample vessels, said needle containing a base metal and having
a surface coated with a coating material that has a chemical
activity lower than a chemical activity of the base metal of
said needle.

10   2. The automatic sampler according to Claim 1, wherein
said coating material includes noble metal that is plated or
deposited on said needle.

3. The automatic sampler according to Claim 1, wherein
15   said coating material includes a synthetic resin coating that
is coated on said needle.

4. The automatic sampler according to Claim 1, wherein
said coating material includes a quartz thin film that is formed
20   on said needle by a chemical vapor deposition method.

5. The automatic sampler according to Claim 1, wherein
said coating material includes non-noble metal that has a
chemical activity lower than a chemical activity of iron and
25   is plated or deposited on said needle.

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6.   The automatic sampler according to Claim 2, wherein the noble metal includes platinum, a platinum group metal, or gold.

7.   The automatic sampler according to Claim 3, wherein the synthetic resin coating includes polyetheretherketone.

8.   The automatic sampler according to Claim 5, wherein the non-noble metal includes nickel or chromium.

9.   The automatic sampler according to Claim 1, wherein an outer surface of said needle is coated with the coating material.

10.   The automatic sampler according to Claim 4, wherein the quartz thin film is formed on an inner surface of said needle.

11.   The automatic sampler according to Claim 1, wherein said automatic sampler is used for a liquid chromatography.

12.   A needle containing a base metal and having a surface coated with a coating material that has a chemical activity lower than a chemical activity of the base metal.

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